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SEVEN THOUSAND ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL MASS MEETING AT RYMAN AUDITORIUM

Great Sunday School Congress Successfully Closes 12th Annual Session

Mammoth Street Parade, Five Thousand Delegates, Sunday School Workers and Citizens in Line of March--Biggest Parade Ever Witnessed in Nashville.

OVER FIVE THOUSAND SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS IN PARADE

Climax of Sunday School Congress Reached Sunday At Ryman Auditorium.

More than five thousand Sunday school workers formed a mammoth street parade that traversed the principal streets of Nashville last Sunday when the Sunday School Congress closed its 12th annual session. The parade was the climax of the congress, which opened on Wednesday morning at seven o'clock in the Ryman Auditorium where over seven thousand interested spectators listened to an eloquent address of Wm. Henry Harrison, an attorney at law of Oklahoma City, Okla. These two features were the culmination of five days of Sunday school work in a summer school of methods known as the Sunday School Congress, which is one of the largest missionary movements in the United States. From Wednesday morning at seven o'clock until Sunday night Nashville was alive with hundreds of workers in the Sunday school department of the Baptist denomination that had gathered here from thirty states including the representation from Canada. Notwithstanding they had met in the city on two previous occasions since which time they had visited many other cities, this being the twelfth annual session, it was admitted on all sides that the sessions just closed were the most profitable ever held. The citizens of Nashville with the local committee covered itself with glory by the hospitable manner in which they entertained the workers and visitors. The best homes of Nashville were thrown open for the entertainment of these distinguished workers. They began to arrive in the city as early as Tuesday. The opening night was a brilliant affair. The music furnished by the mammoth chorus, the eloquent welcome address of Mrs. White, the scholarly sermon by Rev. A. C. Williams all presented to the audience the capacity of the Mt. Olive Baptist auditorium of the city. The Mt. Olive Baptist Church, set a very high mark for Sunday school endeavor. According to the program every department was carried out as laid down. The conductors for these various departments gave the Sunday school enthusiasts an opportunity to know more and do more in his or her particular line of work, while the general sessions really held forth beginning with Bible conference at eight o'clock, moved to the Trencher Training hour at nine thirty o'clock, after which the general session proper began at ten o'clock. At this general session papers on the different phases of Sunday school work were presented to hungry workers who devoured every sentence and every paragraph of the papers read. Through the meeting the chairman who has served in that capacity since the movement was launched, presided. Every night there was a new feature. Immediately following the opening night, which was Wednesday, came the Motoka and Galeda night. Over five hundred these organized class representatives which helped to make up the Congress participated in the demonstration. Then there came the Boy Cadet night. The little street urchin inspired by the patriotic and religious music fell into the ranks, under his captain of the several companies represented. General Crawford had charge of the boys. There was not a dull moment. In platoon formation they operated, they executed difficult commands, they marched in soldierly like manner. Saturday was another day that brought joy to the hearts of the boys, as they were taken to Greenwood Park, where on a perfect drill ground with the unsurpassed boy cadet band they really showed what they could do with so few weeks of training. The Congress representatives took advantage of the occasion to lend encouragement by their presence. The afternoon was spent there. On Saturday night the B. Y. P. U. from over the country had charge. Revs. Prince and Boyd, of Texas, Drane, of Chicago, Sharp of Nashville, Marshall of Florida, with representatives from Kentucky, pulled off a B. Y. P. U. program which was creditable. On Sunday morning the Congress representatives showed their metal. A flying squadron began at an early hour and visited twenty four of the forty odd local schools participating in the meeting. This squadron made speeches in these twenty-four schools and extended a personal invitation for them to join the parade and demonstration, which invitation was accepted. At nine thirty the various schools of Nashville were in charge of Sunday School Congress conductors who really pulled off a model Sunday school. At eleven o'clock eloquent sermons were heard from thirty-five pulpits. The simple story of the lowly Nazarene, the suffering on Calvary and the agonizing trip up Golgotha's hill were the principal themes. At two thirty

GOVERNMENT BULLETIN ISSUED

Negroes and Whites Forced to Read it--Negro Education.

WILL FORCE NEGROES, THE WHITE SOUTH, AND THE NORTH TO READ IT.

The United States Bureau of Education has put its finger on every Negro school above the elementary grades in every community in every State of the Union, and has pointed out defects and fearlessly their major defects or their outstanding excellencies. The Bulletin on Negro Education (1916, Nos. 38 and 39), prepared under the direction of Dr. Thomas Jesse, former specialist in the education of race groups, is not only the "Who's Who" in Negro schools, but it is also a "doomsday" book showing who is not who. Regardless of ownership; administration; boards of control; whether white or colored, southern or northern, philanthropic or denominational; the report causes each one of the schools examined to pass in review before the reader and praises it unreservedly or with qualifications, or condemns it in the same manner. Four distinct groups must read or consult the report or indict themselves for criminal negligence and indifference, that is (1) all Negroes; (2) all the white South; (3) all philanthropists who are supporting Negro schools or all boards and agencies acting for these donors; and (4) all denominational bodies which are conducting colored schools.

in each case, making the report, by so much, an invaluable guide to such institutions as care to conform to Federal standards.

The White South and the Report.
The white people of the South have in their hands the control of public school education for the Negro. The report places on record, not unkindly but impartially, suggestion of the inequality of the distribution of the school funds and the poor equipment of the Negro schools. More than this the "land grant" colleges for Negroes in the South are all managed by State boards. In practically every case there is a fundamental weakness in the system of control so that these schools have never risen fully to their opportunities. The South will want to see the exact criticism, favorable or unfavorable, made in each one of these schools and the definite recommendations made looking toward improvement and greater efficiency.

Besides, since Negroes are inclined to live in those places where there are good schools for their children, the Southern States, respectively, will be compared with each other by colored persons, to the disparagement of those which make poor showing. Southern leaders will want to know how the states compare with each other so that progress may be made in this direction in the backward States of this section.

Also since the report practically indites by its criticism definite ideals of education from the viewpoint of the Bureau, the South, whether it accepts the standards or not, can afford to be ignorant of the standards which the Bureau sets for the schools for Negroes of the country.

Northern Philanthropy and 'Who's Who' in Negro Schools.

To philanthropic persons and bodies, the report is invaluable. In the

DELEGATES PRAISE THE "Y" BUILDING

Secretary And Visitors Pleased--Big Meetings Now Accommodated

From all parts of the country, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, men and boys who were in attendance at the Sunday School Congress, June 13-18th, stopped at the Y. M. C. A. That they were handled with the utmost care and were well pleased is probably pretty generally known. Some few who had been assigned to private homes, left and came to the "Y" but no one, so far as is known who was given assignment in the Association apartments left, because of dissatisfaction. It was a pleasure that Nashville will get a great many of the delegates who were here, and they would for many months to come sing the praises of the Y. M. C. A. in Nashville. The Secretary and those who looked after the comfort of the distinguished visitors expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the Association occasioned by the men who stopped in the "Y" building. It was a fine bunch of Christian men. Nearly one hundred registered and took rooms, and most of them took meals as well. It is the thought of the Committee that Nashville will get a great many conventions now which they have been forced to allow other cities to take care of in former years. The "Y" building and immaculate will hold their big annual meeting here in a

NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY PURCHASED AT NASHVILLE, TENN.

Baptist of the United States to Open Training School--Buy Boscobel College.

of the modern business of fighting at the opening of the officers' training school at Ft. Des Moines today. "The first step in the making of an officer," declared Col. C. C. Ballou, commanding officer "is the making of a soldier." "We have organized the men into a regiment of footmen, and each man will receive precisely the same training, regardless of his previous station in military or civil life." Fourteen of the sixteen regiments of the Negro division, which will be drafted this fall, will be officered from the regiment now at Ft. Des Moines. Each of the fourteen companies will furnish the officers for one regiment. Over 1,000 Here. About 1,250 men are expected by the end of the week. A total of 1,917 were on the roll Monday morning. The northwestern department has been the slowest to report and there are still 250 to arrive. The training is under the immediate supervision of Major Sturtevant, senior instructor, whose staff is composed of eleven instructors from the regular army. Non-commissioned officers from the regular army who are assigned as instructors expect to receive commissions in the big army to be drafted. Plenty to Eat. "The men are being well fed," declared Capt. M. E. Mallory, quartermaster. "They are not getting the regular army rations, but we are getting the best the Des Moines can furnish." Captain Mallory explained that each man is allowed 75 cents a day for his meal, while the regular army allowance is but 40 cents. The allowance will remain the same during the entire summer. The Y. M. C. A. has been established under the direction of Secretary R. B. DeFrantz of Kansas City, Mo., and opened Sunday. The first service was held Sunday afternoon, when the Rev. Howard Hanson spoke. Mr. DeFrantz is being assisted by W. H. J. Beckett, who has charge of the physical work. Baseball, volleyball and various other games will be directed by Mr. Beckett as soon as the work can be organized. How They Started Today. The schedule for today is an example of the type of strenuous training the men are getting: 7:00 to 8:30 a. m.--Infantry drill without arms. 8:30 to 9:00 a. m.--Manual physical training. 9:15 to 10:15 a. m.--Infantry drill. 10:45 to 11:45 a. m.--Practice march without arms. 1:30 to 2:30 p. m.--Musketty arms. 2:30 to 4:30 p. m.--Semaphore signaling. 4:30 to 4:50 p. m.--Conferences on care of equipment. 7:00 to 8:00 p. m.--Evening study on organization of the regiment. 8:00 to 9:00 p. m.--Semaphore signaling. The remainder of the week will be occupied on practically the same lines. Conferences have been arranged after each study period and every evening the work for the next day will be explained. Bayonet drill and the manual of arms will be taken up on June 21 and guard duty will immediately follow that.

A CARD OF THANKS TO THE NASHVILLE PUBLIC.

We want the citizens of Nashville to accept our thanks for the big-hearted and cordial reception that they gave to the Sunday School Congress delegates who gathered here in the Twelfth Annual Session of the Sunday School Congress, that has just closed. In handing out this card of thanks, we feel sure that we voice the sentiment of each person who attended the session. The people of Nashville irrespective of denomination threw open their homes and their churches for the entertainment of the friends. Nashville stamped herself indelibly in the hearts and minds of the people throughout the United States. We take this means of thanking you individually and collectively.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONGRESS,

HENRY ALLEN BOYD, Secretary.

Negro Interest in The Report.

Negroes, first of all, must examine the report because most of the schools are conducted by them and they will want to know the opinion of Government experts relative to the different Negro schools. In the next place, running through the whole report is a thread of definite suggestion as to future lines of work which the Bureau endorses for all Negro schools. No Negro whether he approves of the suggestion or not, has any right to claim inferiority in his race until he has informed himself of this suggestion looking toward more concrete courses of study.

Again: certain schools are condemned outright or their discontinuance is boldly recommended on prudential grounds. At the same time other schools are warmly commended and constructive criticisms are made. Austin, Texas, of which W. H. Crawford is superintendent. This school has an enrollment of twenty four hundred. The state prize banner was awarded to the Pleasant Green Baptist Sunday School of Nashville, Mr. T. G. Marshall superintendent. This school has an enrollment of three hundred fifty, but its report shows the most constructive front line Sunday school work. At five thirty o'clock after some announcements the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Wm. Hicks D. D., of Meridian, Miss., who is the conductor of the Bible Conference.

past, a great host of solicitors have almost overwhelmed wealthy contributors to Negro schools; and these donors have been in large measure in the dark as to the merits of the various schools for which aid has been sought. This need not be so any longer, for every Negro school in the classes already indicated is represented and described.

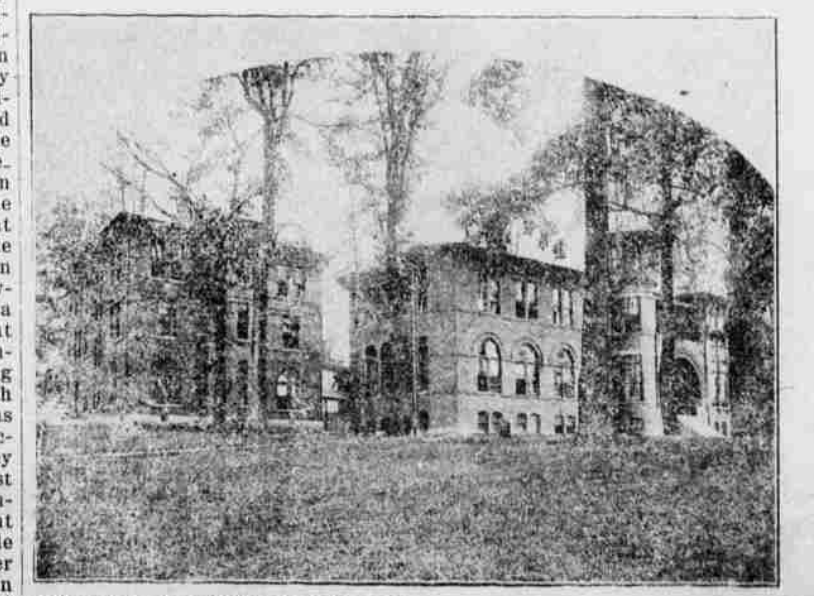
Denominational Schools.
The various churches which support schools must examine the report because in a number of cases the educational institutions so supported do not make the very best showing. For example, one of the oldest and best known schools of this type it is said "Owing to church politics the institution has been badly managed and its organization is not effective, a serious indictment; and all of the church schools will want to see if they have special points of weakness like this or elements of strength which will appeal to the confidence of the public."

Awakening the Lions.
The report is certain to "stir up the lions." Its conclusion will not be accepted in many quarters; and its frank criticisms will not be relished in certain cases; but the help suggestions made all through the volumes will mean much to many worthy schools which have not had the benefit of unbiased and constructive criticism. Because of all this, the report will be read and consulted as few works touching the Negro

few weeks and it is the plan of the Committee of Management to take care of the men delegates of both.

It is now possible for the Association to furnish rooms for at least 150 young men who may be in need of a good and convenient home. The advantages arising out of such a privilege are too numerous to mention here. Strangers coming to the city need not any more trouble the already crowded homes for room and board. The good people of Nashville have made sacrifices which have resulted in comforts for young men away from home. They have done for fellows away from home what other cities have done for Nashville young men who so often go away in search for higher wages and improved conditions. This will now be a means for keeping more of them at home in a happier and more contented frame of mind. The Young Men's Christian Association which have grown to such proportions as this have always proved a benediction to the entire city in which they have been located, and it is almost certain to prove so in Nashville unless conditions are vastly different here from other cities. The people here are just people like all other people, exercising good judgment in many things and poor in others, but have ever been examined; and there is no question but that certain definite good will result to the whole country from the study.

ISAAC FISHER.



NATIONAL BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL AND TRAINING SEMINARY Looking at it from the N.W. Corner of the Campus.

at the same time advancing all the room at once before they are picked over. A few calls for rooms have been made already even while the announcement is being made ready.